



PATENT
Docket No. 50.01180101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Brian A. VAARTSTRA) Group Art Unit: 2814
Serial No.: 10/032,049) Examiner: Thao Le
Confirmation No.: 5131)
Filed: 21 December 2001)
For: METHODS FOR PLANARIZATION OF METAL-CONTAINING SURFACES USING
HALOGENS AND HALIDE SALTS

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 3, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 18, 31, 34, 37, and 50, and add claims 51-53. The new and amended claims are provided below in clean form. Per 37 C.F.R. §1.121, new and amended claims are also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate changes made (for convenience, all pending claims are provided in Appendix A).

1. (AMENDED) A planarization method comprising:

positioning a metal-containing surface of a substrate to interface with a polishing surface, wherein the metal-containing surface comprises a metal selected from the group consisting of a Group VIIIB metal, a Group IB metal, and a combination thereof;

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01 FC:103 54.00 CH
02 FC:102 252.00 CH